

ABIJAH FISK.

JANUARY 18, 1832.

Mr. REED, of New York, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, made the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Abijah Fisk, have examined the same, and report:

That it appears from the affidavit and petition of the petitioner, that in the year 1779, he entered on board the public armed vessel "Oliver Cromwell," a ship belonging to the State of Connecticut, and in the service of the United States, as a common sailor, for a single cruise; that he was on board said ship about three months, when he was taken prisoner by the British ship Daphne, after a severe action, in which he was wounded severely, having his collar bone and right arm broken, and his shoulder dislocated. That he has, ever since, been disabled; that he is now 76 years old. Accompanying the petition is a certificate, signed by the captain and lieutenant of the "Oliver Cromwell;" and dated the 27th August, 1779, addressed to Governor Trumbull, certifying that Fisk was a sailor on board said vessel, and that he was wounded in the manner set forth in Fisk's petition. The hand writing of the captain and lieutenant are satisfactorily proven, as also the fact that they are now both dead. The petitioner also produces a certified copy of the account kept by the agent of the officers and crew of the "Oliver Cromwell," in which there are several items of debt and credit with the said Fisk, while serving on board said vessel. This document is also satisfactorily proven. William Howard testifies that he was a sailor on board the "Oliver Cromwell" at the time of her capture, and corroborates Fisk's statement in every particular. The magistrate who took Howard's affidavit, certifies to his good character. Christopher Brown, a sailor on board the "Oliver Cromwell," substantially corroborates Howard's statement. Several surgeons have examined the petitioner, and certify to his being more or less disabled, in consequence of the wounds he received while on board the "Oliver Cromwell." Among the rest, two surgeons of the navy, state, under oath, that they consider the petitioner three-fourths disabled, from obtaining his subsistence by manual labor, in consequence of his said wounds. The petitioner, some time since, applied to the War Department for a pension, but his claim was rejected, in consequence of the proof of his services not coming strictly within the rules adopted by that department. The petitioner, on the 14th December, 1818, applied to Congress for a pension, and in addition to his services in the navy, his petition set forth servi-

ces in the army of the revolution, at different times, amounting to about 21 months. The committee to whom that petition was referred, as appears by their report, paid no attention to the fact of Fisk's services in the navy, or of his being wounded, but rejected his claim on the sole ground that it did not appear, from his petition, that he had actually served for the term of nine months under any one enlistment.

From a full examination of this case, we are of opinion that the said Fisk is entitled to a pension of six dollars per month, to commence on the 1st of January, 1825, and report a bill accordingly.

REPORT

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of John Fisk, have examined the same, and report:

That it appears from the affidavits and petition of the petitioner, that in the year 1778, he entered on board the public armed vessel "Oliver Cromwell," a ship belonging to the State of Connecticut, and in the service of the United States, as a common sailor, for a voyage cruise; that he was on board said ship about three months, when he was taken prisoner by the British ship "Hague," after a severe action, in which he was wounded severely, having his collar bone and right arm broken, and his shoulder dislocated. That he has ever since been disabled, and that he is now 76 years old. Accordingly, the petition is a certificate, signed by the captain and lieutenant of the "Oliver Cromwell," and dated the 5th August, 1779, addressed to Governor (Frederick) Armstrong, containing that Fisk was a sailor on board said vessel, and that he was wounded in the manner set forth in Fisk's petition. The handwriting of the captain and lieutenant was subsequently proven, as also the writing of the vessel and her name, and the petition also produced a certified copy of the account kept by the agent of the officers and crew of the "Oliver Cromwell," in which there are several items of debt and credit with the said Fisk, while acting on board said vessel. This document is also satisfactorily proven. William Howard testifies that he was a sailor on board the "Oliver Cromwell," at the time of her capture, and corroborates Fisk's statement in every particular. The magistrate who took Howard's affidavit certifies to his good character. (Christopher Brown, a sailor on board the "Oliver Cromwell," substantially corroborates Howard's statement. Several surgeons have examined the petitioner, and certify to his being more or less disabled, in consequence of the wounds he received while on board the "Oliver Cromwell." Among the rest, two surgeons of the navy, dated the 14th December, 1818, applied to Congress for a pension, but his claim was rejected, in consequence of the proof of his services not coming strictly within the rules adopted by that department. The petitioner, some time since, applied to the War Department from obtaining his maintenance by manual labor, in consequence of his state, under color, that they consider the petitioner three-fourths disabled, and that they consider the petitioner three-fourths disabled. The petitioner, on the 14th December, 1818, applied to Congress for a pension, and in addition to his services in the navy, his petition set forth serv-